



On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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Town Hall informs campus about changes in technology use

By Katherine DeLorenzo
An October 22 Technology Town Hall forum gave department chairs, faculty, and deans a chance to learn more about recent changes in campus technology use and offered participants an opportunity to ask questions and air concerns about the changes.

Sponsored by the President's Technology Advisory Committee (PTAC), the forum was moderated by Dr. David Pancost, PTAC chair, and included updates by Roger Doty, director of Computer Services, and Dr. Ken Epstein, who heads the PeopleSoft project. (Dr. Cindy King, executive director of Learning Technologies, was unable to attend due to illness.)

For many on campus, improvements in technology will change—and drastically improve—the efficiency of communication, business, information, and learning. For example, Gallaudet Dynamic Online Collaboration (GDOC) will allow the publication of course materials online, thus enabling an increased level of access by students.

Using PeopleSoft will also change the way the University does business. According to Epstein, purchasing will soon be done directly via PeopleSoft, a move which greatly facilitates the purchasing process. Because PeopleSoft databases are updated daily, departments will no longer have to wait for essential budget information.

An even greater addition is the use of the PeopleSoft Human Resources Management System, or HRMS. Eventually, personnel records, benefits, and other information will be handled by HRMS, which is expected to be complete by the end of next year.

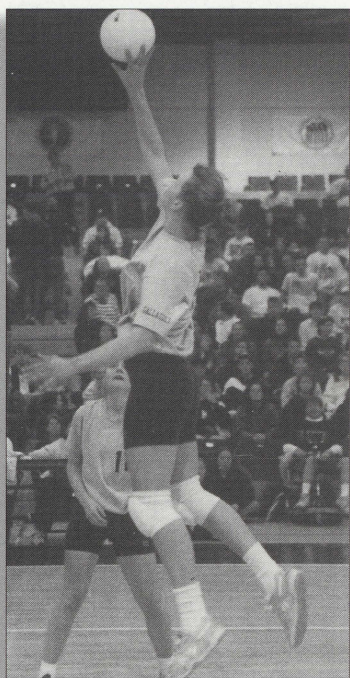
More complex is the task of using PeopleSoft for student administration, especially the processing of admissions information and financial data. Eventually, course listings and registration will be done using PeopleSoft technology, which is expected to be completed by the year 2000.

According to Doty, hundreds of new computers are expected to be installed and maintained for campus use: over 200 for Gallaudet faculty; 110 for PCNMP, and more than 50 for student use.

Changes in technology not seen by the front-end user also include the installation of new fiber optic cable and server hardware.

On the e-mail front, the addition of a new e-mail system means moving away from the antiquated VAX system, which is being phased out at Gallaudet as well as other universities. Some town hall participants expressed frustration about using the new system. One faculty member described the process as akin to "putting the horse before the cart," adding that memory-intensive e-mail software required upgrades in computer hardware, which in turn requires maintenance and installation support, thus slowing down the process.

Miller sets NCAA D-III all-time "kill" record



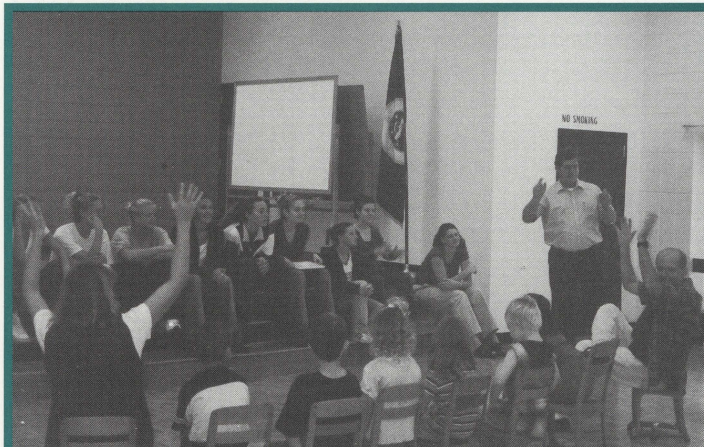
Ronda Jo Miller has led the Bison to a 21-14 season.

By Steve Feit
Gallaudet University junior Ronda Jo Miller of Little Falls, Minn., has broken the NCAA Division III all-time volleyball record for kills. A "kill" is an attempt that is not returnable by the opposing team. Currently, the 6-2 middle blocker leads the nation with 810 kills.

Miller overtook Wittenberg's Dawn Reinhardt last month, and now has 2,496 kills. (Reinhardt, a senior, set the record earlier last month. The Bison (21-14) have seven matches remaining in the regular season.

Miller began the season 13th on the all-time kill list, and second among active players. However, the 6-2 middle blocker quickly catapulted up to the top three, winning Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) Player of the Week honors

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While in Minnesota for the Bethel College Invitational, Gallaudet's volleyball team stopped at the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, where they interacted with students of all ages at three different assemblies. The trip was fun, informative, and nostalgic, since four team members, as well as head coach Patrick O'Brien, graduated from the school. Here, the Bison spread goodwill with some well-wishing elementary school children.

John Millikin, manager for Personal Computer Support, stressed that the high demand for support services has necessitated a longer response time on requests. "We can't keep up in a reasonable response time frame," he said.

Also discussed was the difficulty in finding knowledgeable University employees to assist in computer support and installation, especially with so many technologically savvy students. If these students are in demand from Gallaudet employers, they are equally in demand from private employers, said Nancy Pollock Carroll, director of the Career Center, and the University is obligated to encourage the hiring of its graduates by outside corporations.

Another issue raised was concern over e-mail security. Some participants questioned whether using the new e-mail is less secure than the old VAX system. It was pointed out that the new e-mail system is no less or more secure than any other e-mail system currently available, and that responsibility for ensuring security


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Combined Federal Campaign underway

Each year, Gallaudet employees are offered the opportunity to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign, which has adopted as its theme this year, "It All Comes Back To You."

Over 2,500 deserving organizations are a part of the CFC, several of which specifically support the needs of deaf and hard of hearing people. There are also some that provide meals for hungry children, relief for families in need of counseling or work on cures for diseases, comfort the dying.

According to Maryte Dyess, CFC campaign coordinator, this year's goal is \$30,000. Last year, 122 employees contributed \$30,637.

Every Gallaudet employee is receiving a pledge card and a "Catalog of Caring." Pledge cards need to be returned to the President's Office no later than December 11. 

Dr. Jordan announces passage of FY 1999 federal appropriation


(The following is a message to the campus community from Gallaudet President I. King Jordan.)

"I am pleased to announce that Congress has passed and President Clinton has signed the omnibus appropriation bill for Fiscal Year 1999 which includes \$83,480,000 for Gallaudet University, an increase of three percent above our FY 1998 funding level.

"As I announced earlier, the University will be awarding a three-percent general pay

increase to all eligible faculty, teachers, and staff retroactive to October 1. Union pay increases have been negotiated in accordance with the contract. I have asked that the increases be processed as soon as possible. You will receive more specific information from the Personnel Office.

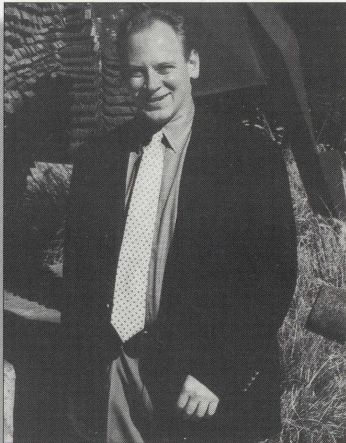
"In addition, the University will again award a staff merit increase in FY 1999 with an average of three percent.

"As always, I am grateful for your support." 

—President I. King Jordan

UP CLOSE

By Mike Kaika



Steve Feit

Steve Feit—Sports information director and comic

Steve Feit (pronounced 'fight') is one of the "new people on the block." He began working at Gallaudet a year ago as sports information director in the Department of Athletics. A 1992 graduate of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., Steve majored in English and was the sports editor for his college newspaper.

When he learned about the SID position at Gallaudet, he applied and is now entering his second year here. "This is really a nice place to work," said Steve. "People are friendly, and because I am still trying to master sign language, patient."

When he is not writing up press releases or articles about Gallaudet's sport teams, he is dreaming up a short script or some one-liners he can use for his act as a stand-up comic. He has been performing at comedy clubs for several years in places such as Birmingham, Ala., West Palm Beach, Fla., Atlanta, Myrtle Beach, S.C., Greenville, S.C., Chattanooga, Tenn., and at the Improv Comedy Club on Connecticut Ave., N.W., here in Washington, D.C.

"Being a comic is like being an anthropologist," said Steve. "You have to know the social and cultural aspects of people before you go on stage and try to make peo-

ple laugh. What may be hilarious to one group of people can be completely offensive to another." Like many up-and-coming comics, Steve uses material based on his family, poking fun at his relatives, even perhaps the family mutt.

Steve said it requires a lot of self-confidence to appear on a stage with several hundred people in the audience waiting to either applaud your act or walk out on you. "I grew up as an extremely shy person, but comedy has helped me to improve my self-confidence," he said. "After a few appearances on stage, I felt better about myself, my self-esteem, and my presentations," said Steve. "But every comic, or comedian, even the professional ones, always get

a little nervous when they walk on that stage."

What are the chances of a stand-up comic making it to the big time? Slim to none, according to Steve. But they don't perform with that goal in mind, they do it because they enjoy it, or like to make people laugh. In some cases, it is an outlet from the everyday routine around the office.

"In many jobs, you get reviewed or critiqued by your superiors every year or so," said Steve. "But doing comedy, there is instant gratification; the audience will let you know immediately whether or not you are doing your job."



Steve Feit performs his comedy routine before an audience at an Atlanta comedy club.

Town Hall meeting on technology

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of an e-mail account lies primarily with the account holder. Suggestions for preventing security problems include not leaving e-mail programs running in a user's absence, not enabling the software's "remember password" function, and not allowing unauthorized access to personal computers. "Each of us has not taken enough personal responsibility for security," said Epstein.

Despite a few complaints, nearly all participants in the Town Hall praised PTAC and PeopleSoft, Learning Technologies, Computer Services, and PC Support personnel for their commitment to improving technology use and services on campus.

An online help desk is available for making requests for installation, repairs, and other questions. This resource, in its pilot phase, is at <http://techhelp.gallaudet.edu>.

Online resources and information about the new technology enhancements can be found in the web edition of this article at <http://www.gallaudet.edu/~otgweb>.

Ronda Jo Miller

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twice, and being named to five all-tournament teams. She amassed at least 25 kills in a match 15 times this season, including four matches with 30-plus kills and one match with 40.

Miller was named to the All-Mid-Atlantic region team in both her freshman and sophomore seasons after posting two of the top-five single-season kill totals in NCAA history. Last season, she set Division III single-season records with 896 kills and 6.45 kills per game.

Miller's athletic success is not limited to volleyball. Last winter, she was named to the NCAA Division III All-America basketball team after leading the nation in blocks (4.8 per game), finishing second in scoring (28.7 points per game), and fourth in rebounding (16.1 per game).

Gallaudet competes in the CAC along with the Catholic University of America, Goucher College, Mary Washington College, Marymount University, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Salisbury State University, and York College.



WHAT'S HAPPENING... AND WHEN

(Note: for more information about University athletic events, call the Athletics Department at x5603; for MSSD athletic events, call x5361.)

November 5—Deadline for December and May graduations; Men's Soccer, CAC Semifinals, time TBA; Volleyball, CAC Semifinals, time TBA; In-Service Training Workshop: "Workers' Compensation," 10 a.m.-noon or 2-4 p.m., Upper Level, "Ole Jim"

November 6—Psychology Colloquium Series featuring Dr. Michael Stinson of NTID/RIT, 12-1 p.m., HMB W320; In-Service Training Workshop: "Ergonomics," 9 a.m.-noon, Upper Level, "Ole Jim"

November 7—Community Service Activity: Capital Area

Community Food Bank, 1-4 p.m., sign up with the Student Activities Office; Cross Country at CAC Championships at Salisbury State, 10 a.m. (Away); Football at Stevens State, 1 p.m. (Away); Men's Soccer, CAC finals, time TBA; Volleyball, CAC finals, time TBA; Swimming at Mary Baldwin, 2 p.m. (Away)

November 9—Graduate Student course registration for spring 1999 semester for currently enrolled students

November 10—In-Service Training Workshop: "The Gallaudet-Federal Government Connection," 9-11 a.m., Board Room, EMG Building; Rap Session: "Racism or Prejudice: Which?," 7-9 p.m., Ely Center Multipurpose Room

November 11—In-Service Training Workshop: "Institutional Data Collection and Usage," 9:30 a.m.-noon, Conference Room, "Ole Jim"; "Gallaudet Connections" featuring Paul Johnston: A One-Man Show, 4 p.m., Washburn Arts Center; Native American Month featuring Dr. Frank McLeod, 3 p.m., Ely Auditorium

November 12-15—Sixth International Conference on Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research, for more information call x6060 or go to www.gallaudet.edu/~aslweb/tisl98/; Swimming at Hood (with St. Mary's), 6 p.m. (Away)

November 13-15 and 20-21—Any Number Can Die, 8 p.m. (2 p.m. on November 15), \$6 for

students/children, \$8 for adults, full-time Gallaudet students free with I.D., Box Office: x5500 (voice) or x5502 (TTY)

November 13—Open House for undergraduate and graduate students, all day, contact Teresa Ezzell (teresa.ezzell@gallaudet.edu) or The Graduate School (graduate.school@gallaudet.edu) for more information; ASL Interaction Lunch, 12-1 p.m., The Abbey

November 14—Cross country at NCAA South Regionals at Frostburg, 10 a.m. (Away); Football vs. Williamson Trade, 1 p.m. (Home); Swimming at Salisbury State/Marymount, 1 p.m. (Home)

